

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 MC-02 /105 W

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R 222349Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3170

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, CSCE, UR

SUBJECT: STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

REF: STATE 248468, STATE 248549

1. PARTICIPANT INTEREST IN SIS MEETINGS OF FIRST COMMITTEE PICKED UP DURING PAST TWO DAYS, WITH A HEAVY ROSTER OF SPEAKERS. MORNING OCTOBER 20 ALGERIAN DELEGATION ANNOUNCED THAT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN NON-ALIGNED AND SOVIET GROUP RESULTED IN JOINT RESOLUTION. IN ESSENCE THIS WAS THE BASIC NON-ALIGNED ("ALGERIAN") RESOLUTION PREVIOUSLY TABLED, WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS, AND IS OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED "A.C.1/L718 REV 1." A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION IS BEING POUCHED TO OPPEL/IO/UNP.

2. IN THE EXPLANATION OF VOTE PRIOR TO THE VOTE, ITALY, SPEAKING FOR THE EC-9, ANNOUNCED THE 9 WOULD ABSTAIN (A COPY OF THIS STATEMENT IS BEING POUCHED TO MR. OPPEL/IO); THE USA STATED AGAINST; THE USSR FOR; DAHOMEY FOR, BUT WITH RESERVATIONS ABOUT DETENTE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2. THE FORMAL VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS WAS 87, 1 (US), 16. THE MAJORITY INCLUDED PORTUGAL, SPAIN, AUSTRIA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND. THE ABSTENTIONS INCLUDED NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, UNITED KINGDOM, BELGIUM, CANADA, ITALY, JAPAN, LIBERIA, TURKEY, ISRAEL, ICELAND, DENMARK, IRELAND AND

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LUXEMBURG.

3. IN AN AFTER-VOTE EXPLANATION, THE AUSTRALIANS EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT DISMANTLING OF MILITARY BASES, AND STATED HOPE THAT DETENTE IN EUROPE WOULD NOT MEAN TRANSFER OF GREAT POWER RIVALRIES TO ELSEWHERE; ON BALANCE THE AUSTRALIANS FELT THE RESOLUTION WOULD BE BENEFICIAL. SWEDEN REMARKED THAT THE RESOLUTION WAS NOT WELL-BALANCED--NOT FURTHER EXPLAINED--AND THEY DID NOT ENTIRELY SUBSCRIBE TO IT. PORTUGUESE DELEGATION WAS BOTHERED BY OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 6, BELIEVING IT FAILED TO MAKE NECESSARY DISTINCTIONS, BUT SUPPORTED THE RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE (COMMENT: PRIVATE REMARKS BY A PORTUGUESE DELEGATE STRONGLY SUGGEST THE DELEGATION NEVER RECEIVED ANY VOTING INSTRUCTIONS FROM LISBON.) TURKEY EXPLAINED THAT ITS ABSTENTION DOES NOT REFLECT A CRITICAL JUDGMENT; IT FELT THAT THE RESOLUTION WENT ALONG WITH THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE 25TH GA, AND THAT THE TOPIC WILL BE CONSIDERED ADEQUATELY IN OTHER COMMITTEES. CANADA STATED IT ABSTAINED FOR REASONS ALREADY EXPRESSED BY OTHER MEMBERS--PRESUMABLY REFERRING TO THE EC-9 DECLARATION BY ITALY. CANADA PROMISED TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE DISCUSSIONS ON WAYS OF STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SECURITY IN OTHER COMMITTEES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, COMMITTEES, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN05254
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750367-0999
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751031/aaaabbhi.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 248468, 75 STATE 248549
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UR, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006